



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND  
2050 WORTH ROAD  
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6000

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

MCHO-CL-Q

19 April 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR Facility Leadership and Primary Care Health Care Teams

SUBJECT: Updated Veterans Affairs/Department of Defense (VA/DoD) Diabetes Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) and Tool Kit

1. The updated VA/DoD CPG for the Management of Diabetes in Primary Care was approved in March 2003 and is posted on both the VA ([www.oqp.med.va.gov/cpg/DM/DM\\_base.htm](http://www.oqp.med.va.gov/cpg/DM/DM_base.htm)) and the Quality Management ([www.QMO.amedd.army.mil](http://www.QMO.amedd.army.mil)) websites. In support of the ongoing implementation of the Diabetes CPG, a team of multi-disciplinary specialists and primary care providers working in the DoD and VA has updated the Diabetes Tool Kit. The Tool Kit will assist the Primary Care Team in delivering the highest quality of care for patients with diabetes.
2. To facilitate implementation of the CPG, the updated Diabetes Tool Kit includes provider, patient, and system tools. A few highlights of the updated Tool Kit are listed below.
  - a. Separate exam room card calling out the Level A recommendations based on randomized controlled trials that the intervention is always indicated and acceptable.
  - b. "Small Steps, Big Rewards, Your Game Plan for Preventing Type 2 Diabetes," information for patients at risk to prevent diabetes.
  - c. "Diabetes Survival Skills," information for patients newly diagnosed with diabetes and needing essential information.
  - d. "Tell Your Provider" poster to complement the "Take Off Your Shoes and Socks" and "Body Mass Index" posters previously developed.
  - e. Monofilaments for diabetic foot screening.
  - f. Competency checklists for staff caring for patients with diabetes.
  - g. DA Form 3349 (Physical Profile) for soldiers diagnosed with diabetes and a Meals-Ready-to-Eat nutrition fact information paper.

The Table of Contents contains a complete listing of the continued, updated, and new tools now available.

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3. Please take this opportunity to re-energize your Diabetes Team and have them update their Action Plan. Many staff members on the original team may have moved or been deployed and need to be replaced. Also, new staff members with an interest in diabetes who have joined your staff may want to be included in your Team's work.
4. The implementation of CPGs, like the Diabetes Guideline, is a major focus of the Military and Veteran's Healthcare Systems assessed through the Military Healthcare System Balanced Scorecard and the VA's Performance Measures. Additionally, many facilities highlight CPG implementation as one of their Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization (JCAHO) performance improvement initiatives.
5. We hope that your health care team will find the Tool Kit helpful as they implement the evidence-based interventions outlined in the updated CPG. The Administrative Point-of-Contact for the Diabetes Tool Kit at the Army MEDCOM is Ms. Angela Klar, MSN, RN, ANP-CS. She can be reached at the above address, by email at [Angela.Klar@cen.amedd.army.mil](mailto:Angela.Klar@cen.amedd.army.mil) or by phone at (210) 221-8740, DSN 471.



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